relocating the car parking area, as the present "premium car parking area" is very close to the airport and could prove a security hazard.

(c) Security at all airports in the country, including that of Hyderabad Airport, is provided as per the national civil aviation security programme in accordance with the guidelines issued by ICAO. The security arrangements of the airport are constantly reviewed by way of inspections, surprise checks etc.

Airport experiences

3646. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in Indian Express dated 29th March, 2002 captioned "Airport: the great Indian experience";

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken to improve the condition?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) There are sufficient number of local pre-paid taxis outside the airports and there are no complaints of pre-paid taxi drivers fleecing passengers. Efforts are also made to provide suitable facilities for passengers to get into or out of their own cars, keeping the security requirements in view. Airlines have been asked not to offload baggage of a flight on 2 conveyor belts. The present length of conveyor belts are being increased to facilitate expeditious baggage delivery. All facilities are checked and maintained by the engineering staff on a regular basis. Airports Authority of India is regularly requesting the State Government of Maharashtra for removal of slums/encroachments around Mumbai Airport. The cleaning staff has also been tasked to maintain high standards of cleanliness, including cleaning of any *pan* stains in passenger terminals, and ensure availability of tissue paper in toilets. Restaurants at airports are

operated by five star hotels/other reputed agencies to ensure supply of hygenic food. Airport upgradation/development being an on-going process, efforts are made continuously to improve the standard of facilities/services. Information regarding the observations in respect of Customs is being collected, and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Purchase of aircrafts from Airbus

3647. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any deal of purchase of aircrafts from Airbus by Government has been challenged in any court of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the status of the case;

(c) whether Indian Airlines is going to purchase new aircrafts from the same company which is *sub-judice*; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. PLI No. CWP 564 of 2000 has been filed by Dr. B.L. Wadehra before the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi. It has been, *inter-alia*, prayed in the petition to expedit CBI's investigation into the 1986 purchase decision by Indian Airlines of 19 Airbus A-320 aircraft. The matter is still *sub-judice*.

(c) and (d) Acquisition of aircraft is done through a laid down procedure which includes Techno-economic evaluation of the various types of aircraft *vis-a-vis* operational needs. The final decision is taken with due approval of the Government. At present no final decision has been taken regarding purchase of new aircraft by Indian Airlines.